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Caribbean Festival

Unity Community Center's African Dance and Drum Ensemble at the 15th Annual South Jersey Caribbean Festival. **See story on page 25.**

Photo courtesy of South Jersey Caribbean Cultural and Development Organization

CARICOM BACKS GUYANA

Border dispute with Venezuela expected to worsen

By Bert Wilkinson

Guyana's aggressive courting of international diplomatic partners such as the 15-nation Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the United Nations appeared to have pushed back plans by neighboring Venezuela to successfully lay claim to a large new offshore area that had stretched all the way to the small Eastern island nations but there is every indication that the simmering border controversy will worsen in the coming months.

Oil and gas-rich Venezuela has for decades disputed the 1899 boundary line between line between the two continental nations but authorities

there appeared to have been rattled by Exxon Mobil's recent discovery of an elephant well off Guyana's east coast and have ratcheted up claims much to the consternation and chagrin of their English-speaking neighbor.

Days after the American oil giant had announced that its Liza 1 well was ready to gush significant oil and gas deposits, President Nicolas Maduro's government published a new offshore boundary demarcation that ran as far southeast as northern Suriname and into the offshore areas of some of the smaller island nations further north in the regional

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Caribbean states light the renewable path

By Nelson A. King

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon says Caribbean states are "lighting the path" towards a sustainable future, as the international community is in the final stretch of preparing a trans-

formative post-2015 agenda for sustainable development.

"I want to salute Caribbean countries for taking on ambitious renewable energy targets," declared Ban in Bridgetown, Barbados on Thursday in addressing a high-level sym-

posium focused on sustainable development in the Caribbean.

"By 2020, for example, Barbados will be one of the world's top five leading users of solar energy on a per capita basis,"

Continued on Page 3

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Apply for Destination Brooklyn mini-grants

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams and the Brooklyn Arts Council (BAC) are urging the borough's small local cultural organizations to apply for the second annual Destination>Brooklyn mini-grants.

Funded by Adams and NYC & Company Foundation, Destination>Brooklyn makes \$1,500 awards available for the creation, production and distribution of print promotional materials that represent the organization's artistic and cultural activities, with an emphasis on borough tourism.

Last year, \$45,000 in mini-grants was awarded to 30 local cultural organizations in over a dozen neighborhoods across Brooklyn, which resulted in over 115,000 pieces of marketing materials, the borough president's office said.

It said applications are now open and will be accepted at brooklynarts-council.org through Thursday, Jul. 16.

"Destination>Brooklyn makes it possible for the popularity of our brand to translate into prosperity for the local cultural organizations that capture our diversity and artistic spirit," Adams said.

"I am pleased to partner again with BAC and the NYC & Company Foundation to make this opportunity for advancing tourism in our borough while giving the arts an even greater stage to shine in communities throughout Brooklyn", he added.

Morgan Lindsey Tachco, BAC grants and services director, said BAC Grants annually distributes over a quarter million dollars to the borough's artists, collectives and small organizations.

"The Destination>Brooklyn mini-grant is a unique, welcome addition to BAC's funding portfolio," he said. "Diverse, groundbreaking creativity is a huge part of what defines our borough, thanks to the work of our local cultural organizations.

"We're grateful to the Office of the Borough President and the NYC & Company Foundation for providing an opportunity for these organizations to hone their brands and broaden their reach to the millions of tourists that enjoy our city each year. Brooklyn is the premier international cultural destination - these local organizations are the reason", he added.

"Unique cultural organizations and programming play an important role in attracting tourists to Brooklyn, as well as other boroughs," said Fred Dixon, president and CEO of NYC & Company.



Sitting are members of the Guyana Tri-State Alliance Yvonne Marcus, (standing behind Marcus is President Patricia Jordan-Langford) Lynette Marshall, Phillis Cort and Deputy Borough President Sandra Chapman, with award recipients.

Photo Tangerine Clarke

Guyanese nationals hailed at Brooklyn Borough Hall

By Tangerine Clarke

President David Granger's message that states Guyana celebrates the Independence it gained 49 years ago on May 26, 1966 guided by the inspirational national motto "One People One Nation One Destiny," rang true recently at Brooklyn Borough Hall, where nationals commemorated their autonomy.

The Guyana Tri-State Alliance's colorful tribute under the patronage of Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams and Councilman Dr. Mathieu Eugene saluted the excellence of citizens whose contributions have played major roles in the development of their communities and that of the United States of America as a whole.

Dr. Ronald Alexander Daily, Rev. Michael Barrington Bacchus, Bishop John Cummings, Verna Walcott-

White, Tony Singh, Angaad Sooknandan, Lorna Welshman-Neblett, Oswald "Teach" David, Sonia Noel, Rosalind McLymont, Romanee R. Kalicharran, Vrinda S. Jagan, Mohan Singh and Dolly Small received The Golden Arrowhead of Distinction Award, citations and proclamations.

Pandit Tillackdharry Seerattan, Nalini Tiwart, and Linda Holder were also honored, while Consul General Brentnold received a special award.

The Youth Award went to Tots and Teens In Focus member, Blossom Paris, while Kaila Holder accepted the posthumous honor on behalf of her mother, Sheila Holder, founder of the Alliance For Change political party.

Speaking on behalf of the borough president, Deputy Borough President, Sandra Chapman acknowledged Guy-

ana's Independence and stated that the borough president's mission is to have one borough.

"We are a diverse community but Borough President Adams believes that through our unity and strength we will become one," said Chapman.

Chapman, a Guyanese American, congratulated President Granger's new government and lauded Patricia Jordan Langford for serving the community for the past twenty-eight years.

Councilmember Mathieu in turn, complimented the Guyana Tri-State Alliance and called the contribution of Guyanese in the New York area, remarkable.

In an effort to extol the unsung heroes of the Guyanese community, president of the long standing Tri-State

Continued on Page 20

Caribbean on path to sustainable energy

Continued from cover

he added. "You are lighting the path to the future."

The U.N. said the post-2015 agenda for sustainable development will be agreed on at U.N. headquarters in New York in September.

Two decades ago, the U.N.'s Barbados Program of Action was adopted here to tackle vulnerabilities facing Small Island States (SIDS).

"My main message to you is to remain fully engaged and keep working with us to strengthen our partnership during this vital year for humanity," Ban

told delegates in Barbados on Thursday. "Together, we can build a better, more sustainable world, for all."

The meeting was among the U.N. chief's first stops in Barbados, where later on Thursday he made opening remarks to the 2015 Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Summit.

On Friday, he, among others, held an interactive dialogue at the University of the West Indies.

"Twenty years ago, this very building was the site of the First Global Conference on Small Island Developing States that adopted the Barbados Program of

Action - the first compact between this group and the international community," noted Ban, adding that, for SIDS the place is "hallowed ground."

Bolstered by the presence of many leaders of governments, regional and international organizations, the private sector, academia, and civil society, the U.N. Secretary-General underscored the "continuing Caribbean commitment to put our world on a safer, more sustainable and equitable pathway," a few days from the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Caribbean

CARICOM says it disagrees with statements that the 15-member regional grouping "has been slow" to deal with the unfolding situation in the Dominican Republic where people of Haitian descent are being deported from the Spanish-speaking country.

CARICOM Secretary General Irwin La Rocque told reporters in Barbados ahead of the July 2-4 summit of regional leaders "I disagree. I fundamentally disagree".

He said the issue will be among agenda items to be discussed by CARICOM leaders regarding the Dominican Republic matter.



The Dominican Republic gave a deadline of June 17, 2015, for people of Haitian descent to apply for legal residency.

Hundreds of people, mostly, low-wage workers from neighboring Haiti, waited in line for hours to submit residency applications under a registration initiative that began in June last year.

The Dominican Republic has said that migrants who can prove they entered the country before October 2011 can qualify for legal residency.

Antigua

Residents within the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) sub-grouping will no longer have to travel abroad for treatment of cancer and other chronic non-communicable diseases.

This as the grouping recently opened its Organization of Eastern Caribbean (OECS) Cancer Center in St. John's Antigua.

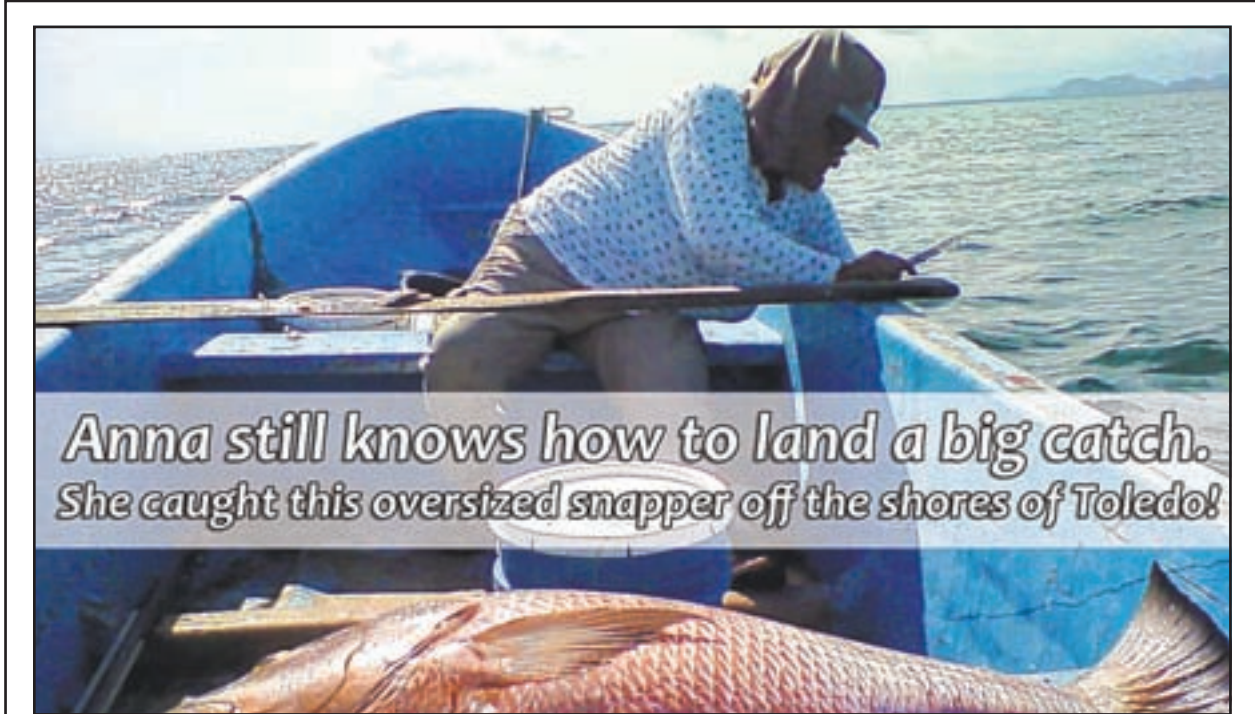
The Center, which is the brainchild of former prime minister now opposition leader Baldwin Spencer took three years from ground-breaking in April 2012 to formal opening in June 2015 and is partnered after a similar center in The Bahamas.

Although based in Antigua and Barbuda, the center will be jointly owned by all OECS member states.



Spencer said that the opening of the Cancer Center will improve the provision of accessible cancer treatment services throughout the sub-region, since the center will provide high quality medical radiation and surgical oncology services which will be markedly discounted for government supported patients.

Cancer services at government hospitals throughout the sub region is expected to be boosted through regular oncology clinics, developing cost effective and safe chemo therapy services providing oversight and expertise in the various islands and by providing major



Belizean fisher honored

Anna still knows how to land a big catch. See story on page 16.

cost savings to partner governments.

Former Caribbean Community (CARICOM) chairman and prime minister of The Bahamas, Perry Christie, highlighted the fact that every year more than 1,000 persons are diagnosed with cancer within the OECS.

He also noted the opportunity for medical tourism even as he underscored the importance of healthier lifestyles by regional citizens.

Bahamas

After months of uncertainty, Bahamas mega resort Baha Mar announced it had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in the U.S. district court of Delaware and warned it would have to cut jobs if it does not resolve the matter "in the next few weeks."

"The board of directors has determined that due to the financial consequences of the repeated delay by the general contractor, and the resulting loss of revenue, the Chapter 11 process is the best path to provide the time to put in place a viable capital structure and working relationships to complete construction and successfully open Baha Mar," the resort said in a statement.

Baha Mar Ltd. will file an application in the Supreme Court of The Bahamas seeking approval of the U.S. court orders, the statement added.



The \$3.5 billion resort has been delayed three times and Baha Mar CEO Sarkis Izmirlian has charged that its contractor, China State Construction American Bahamas Ltd, is to blame.

The Export Bank of China is financing the resort. There are about 2,000 employees at Baha Mar.

Barbados

The Barbados government has imposed a 10 percent tax on carbonated soft drinks, and fruit juices, with sweeteners with the aim to decrease consumption.

This is intended to help reduce the high incidence of non-communicable diseases, especially diabetes, and contribute to the overall good health of Barbadians.

This message from the Ministry of Health is in response to suggestions in the Daily Nation newspaper recently that the tax was less about health and more about generating revenue.

The tax is in fact, all about health, the Ministry said.

"Taxation is a proven method used in public health to influence positive behavior. This was clearly demonstrated in the reduced demand from and consumption of tobacco products after these products were taxed," the statement added.



It further disclosed there is evidence emerging which suggests taxing food high in salt and sugar "had good public health benefits."

The "Health of the Nation Study" conducted in Barbados in 2012 revealed two in every three Barbadian adults were overweight or obese. One in three adults was hypertensive, and one in five, diabetic.

Grenada

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced that Grenada will receive US\$2.8 million after the island successfully completed the second review of its economic performance under a three-year program supported by the Extended Fund Facility (ECF).

The IMF said that the disbursement brings to US\$8.5 million the amount of funds made available to Grenada since the US\$21.7 million EFC arrangements was approved in June 2014.

"The Grenadian authorities have achieved important results in the context of their Fund-supported economic program. Fiscal targets have been exceeded, important reforms of the fiscal policy framework have been put in place and significant progress has been made in restructuring public debt," IMF Deputy Managing Director Min Zhu said.



Continued on Page 14

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CARICOM BACKS GUYANA



CARICOM Chairman and Barbadian Prime Minister Freundel Stuart.

Associated Press / Mary Altaffer

Continued from cover island chain.

Fearing for the worse, Guyana took the issue to last week's CARICOM leaders summit in Barbados, transforming what had appeared to be a moribund agenda into one that had extensive discussions on the implications of the new boundary line for Guyana and its regional family members.

In the end the bloc, through current Chairman and Barbadian Prime Minister Freundel Stuart, told Maduro to keep its hands off Guyana despite diplomatic waffling from St. Vincent, Dominica and a few others which have extremely strong ties with Venezuela and are key beneficiaries of grant and other forms of aid from Caracas. "We have to make sure that the situation does not spin out of control and ensure that level heads are held on both sides," Stuart said noting the fact that CARICOM is behind Guyana on this.

Maduro had been invited to sit at the table with President David Granger and other leaders but predictably backed out after Granger scrubbed plans

to meet him if the published map was not taken down and discarded.

But by the time Granger had landed back at his office in Georgetown, Maduro was addressing his own parliament, announcing plans to recall Ambassador Reyna Margarita Arratia for consultations, generally review relations with Guyana and to scale down its presence there, moves Foreign Minister Carl Greenidge dismissed as playing to a home gallery.

The saber rattling between the two, however, has not apparently affected Guyana's purchase from Venezuela of about 6,000 barrels or half the daily needs.

As Guyanese diplomats monitored the situation in Caracas, Maduro published a brand new map on Monday but this time without any numerical coordinates showing exactly where the country is claiming as its new marine borders.

Authorities there have made it known that they are particularly irked by the fact that Exxon had palpably ignored 'orders' to stop the drilling and abandon the area much

as Texas-based firm Anadarko did when Venezuelan gunboats back in 2013 had expelled its seismic vessel and had arrested and detained its crew for more than a week.

And if anyone dares to think that the Venezuelan right wing is not in on the plot to grab Guyana's potentially rich offshore area, then they need only refer to recent statements by former foreign minister Jose Vicente Rangel who says the west is behind Guyana's aggressive saber rattling and is training armed groups to penetrate Venezuela.

He has charged that Guyana is being used as a platform by the west to smuggle arms into Venezuela, accusations Guyanese officials are yet to react to.

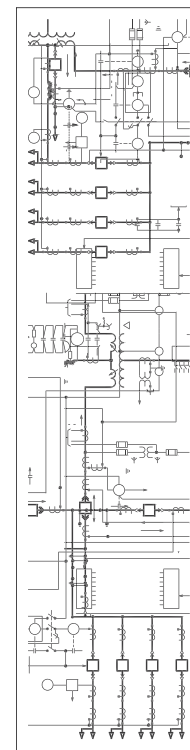
"U.S. Special Forces are reinforcing these activities in the area and, from the waterways of the Yuruani River in Essequibo in the vicinity of the sector called Anacoco, they are training personnel to raid Venezuelan areas as part of a social and economic destabilization program in the region. International intelligence agencies

are carrying out infiltration activities from the Cooperative Republic of Guyana into Venezuela. There is a large flow of weapons from the reclamation area in Essequibo into Venezuela," he charged on his television program this week.

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Haiti president, business leaders open new container port

By Evens Sanon and David McFadden

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Haitian President Michel Martelly, business leaders and civic boosters inaugurated an \$80 million container port Thursday aimed at giving the hemisphere's poorest country a much bigger role in global shipping.

Sitting just outside the capital of Port-au-Prince, Port Lafito is designed to handle the massive ships that will be able to pass through the newly expanded Panama Canal. Hopes are it will anchor an economic zone that will create 25,000 jobs by 2020.

The canal expansion has caused many countries to build or upgrade port infrastructure in hopes of playing a major role in global supply chains. But perhaps nowhere are the stakes higher than in Haiti, where the World Bank says 59 percent of people live on less than \$2.44 a day and an additional 24 percent live on less than half that.

"This project will make a significant impact on the national economy and have a beneficial impact on the more than 10 million people that live here," said Reuven Bigio, CEO of the GB Group



Haitian President Michel Martelly.
Associated Press / Dieu Nalio Chery, File

conglomerate.

GB Group, which is majority-owned by Gilbert Bigio, one of Haiti's wealthiest men, has partnered at the port with Seattle-based SSA Marine, which will oversee operations. The Haitian state bank, International Finance Corp. and Dutch development bank are among institutions that invested in the project.

Officials already have agreements with international shipping companies Evergreen Marine and King Ocean Services to

make port calls. An agreement was also signed between Port Lafito and Miami's port to collaborate on cargo traffic.

The port, which has two mobile cranes, two top loaders and 16 trucks, is scheduled to see its first ship Sunday.

Haiti is located on busy sea lanes between North, Central and South American markets, and independent shipping experts express optimism Port Lafito will be a boon for Haiti.

"This will go a long way at improving the commercial prospects of a country that is plagued with inefficiencies, corruption and rent-seeking behavior," said Jean-Paul Rodrigue, a global transport expert and professor at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York.

Martelly said Haiti needs "more models of this type of project" as it continues to recover from the 2010 earthquake that devastated much of the capital and surrounding areas.

The port sits next to a rapidly growing community called Canaan where so many people displaced by the quake carved out homesteads that it's now considered Haiti's fourth largest urban district. Residents hope the port will provide them with jobs.

Warner hires legal team

By Azad Ali

Former FIFA Vice-President Jack Warner has hired a team of attorneys, including British Queen's Counsel Edward Fitzgerald to fight his extradition to the United States.

Warner, a former Trinidad and Tobago national security minister, and leader of the Independent Liberal Party (ILP) has been indicted by the U.S. Department of Justice on charges of corruption, money laundering and racketeering during his time in FIFA, is free on \$2.5 million bail.

He also a member of Parliament for Chaguanas West, Central Trinidad.

So far the U.S. had not yet sent a final request for extradition.

Warner said he intends fighting the extradition, but would go to the U.S. if the court ruled against him.

"It is going to be a long hot summer," he told supporters at a cottage meeting in South Trinidad last week.

One of his local attorneys Reka Ramjit said the extradition matter could take several years in the local courts.

Attorney Fitzgerald QC is reported to have defended controversial Muslim cleric Abu Hamza and Moors murderer Myra Hindley in the United Kingdom.

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Everyone can't simply move to the Caribbean

By Alley Olivier

Living life on an island with beautiful ocean views, breathtaking sunsets, rich in culture, history, food and plenty rum — that is a life envious of anyone. Whether you are of Caribbean descent or not, there is something enticing about leaving the fog and dirty beaches of our beloved New York City for that clear ocean blue found in Trinidad and Tobago or the Bahamas.

A new trend seems to be heating up, though it isn't very new at all, of people leaving their lives up to fate to live a simpler life on the island of their choice. Articles on Forbes, the New York Times and other blog sites have tapped these individuals to discuss their journeys.

Most recently, Noelle Hancock penned a liberating story for *Cosmopolitan Magazine* explaining why four years ago she packed her bags and left her cushy \$95,000 job to scoop ice cream with the ocean as her backdrop.

Hancock described her life living comfortably in Manhattan as a journalist pulling in a hefty salary as unfortunately very unfulfilling. She wrote:

"I need a vacation.' This was a constant refrain in my head. I wasn't living in the moment; I was living for some indeterminate moment in the future when I'd saved enough money

and vacation days to take a trip somewhere. If you're constantly thinking you need a vacation, maybe what you really need is a new life. But I was complacent. My life wasn't satisfying, but it was comfortable."

This persistent mantra led to her moving to the island of St. John (one of the Virgin Islands) without even visiting, much to her mother's dismay and friend's confusion. Hancock was on a mission to reinvent and restart and that is exactly what she did.

Her story is liberating. For many feeling that they have hit a point in their life where the cogs are no longer moving, Hancock's story might be all that one needs to push them to start afresh.

But before you quit and pack those suitcases filled with permanent summer dresses, shorts and open toed shoes, consider all the factors that made Hancock's move possible.

For starters, it is safe to assume that Hancock had the means to make such a bold move — she was grossing a salary of \$95,000. Savings coupled with good credit is certainly a necessary detail needed. Many articles with the same story as Hancock manage to neglect the nest egg necessary to ship off on a one-way ticket to paradise.

We can't all break our lease
Continued on Page 12

Enshrining a presumption of openness

By Patrice McDermott

The president has a new opportunity to ensure that the openness policies laid out on his first day of office do not end on his last day. On Jan. 21, 2009, President Obama signed an executive order and two presidential memoranda to usher in what he called a "new era of openness."

The presidential memo on the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) ordered federal agencies to operate under a clear presumption of disclosure for information requested under FOIA. "All agencies should adopt a presumption in favor of disclosure, in order to renew their commitment to the principles embodied in FOIA, and to usher in a new era of open government," according to the memo. "The presumption of disclosure should be applied to all decisions involving FOIA."

Following on the president's day one FOIA memo, Attorney General Eric Holder issued new guidelines for implementing the presumption of disclosure. Holder's March 19, 2009 memo states that agencies "should not withhold information simply because it may do so legally," and strongly encourages agencies "to make discretionary disclosures of information." The memo also emphasizes that "FOIA professionals should be mindful of their obligation to work 'in a spirit of cooperation' with FOIA requesters," and notes that "[o]pen government requires agencies to work

These FOIA reforms are critical for achieving the unprecedented levels of openness promised by the president.

proactively and respond to requests promptly."

The language in the presidential memo and subsequent FOIA guidance was praised by transparency proponents who had called on President Obama to reverse the secrecy trend of the Bush-era and issue new directives on openness. The directives marked a transformative shift from the prior administration, when the DOJ instructed agencies to essentially withhold whatever they could under FOIA.

Now, the president should support legislation that ensures that the next administration cannot undo his guidance, and resort to the presumption of secrecy that guided agencies in the past. However, much to the chagrin of openness advocates, instead of the hoped-for support of the President for his own language and directions, persistent behind-the-scenes resistance appears to have come from the administration and executive agencies.

It is the time for the president to publicly support the language in the FOIA reform bills moving in Congress.

Two bipartisan Freedom of Information Act bills in Senate (S. 337) and the House (H.R. 653) will codify the administration's FOIA policy and guidance while strengthening citizens' access to public information.

Each contains language that closely mirrors the administration's instructions on FOIA — which otherwise cannot be guaranteed to last into the next administration. While there are differences in the language, the bills would solidify the presumption of openness, requiring records to be released unless there is a specific foreseeable harm or legal requirement to withhold them.

These FOIA reforms are critical for achieving the unprecedented levels of openness promised by the president, on day one, when he announced that "every agency and department should know that this administration stands on the side not of those who seek to withhold information, but those who seek to make it known."

McDermott is executive director of OpenTheGovernment.org, and author of "Who Needs to Know? The State of Public Access to Federal Government Information," and numerous articles. She is a recipient of the James Madison Award from the American Library Association in recognition of her work to champion, protect and promote public access to government information and the public's right to know.

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Kooks think White House is winnable

Although we remain adamant, in this space, that the less said about one Donald Trump the better, it should be more than a bit bothersome to the bulk of the national electorate that it was a good news / bad news scenario that followed this racist buffoon's entry into the Republican field of presidential aspirants. Why was there a bad-news component? Why, with the likes of NBC, Macy's, professional golf and others responding maturely to his typical sleazeball utterances and giving him the boot, was there need for a countervailing madness of second place in GOP voter preference polling going to such a jerk? Why, indeed, a result so ludicrous from a supposedly informed citizenry?

For starters, we ought be reminded that the notion of the informed or enlightened electorate is one that at times cries out for strict reality-check review – that although the electorate has twice shocked itself and voted Barack Obama into office, it has also seen fit to maintain a Republican majority in the House of Representatives

that, among other things, has voted about 60 times to derail the Affordable Care Act, indifferent to the critical need it fills for millions of fellow Americans. The “informed” electorate routinely votes into office Senators and House members who poo-hoo scientific evidence on global warming and attach no priority to protection of the environment. An “informed” voting public, both at federal and state level, elects avowed apologists for ongoing carnage resulting from the profusion of unregulated guns in the country. In light of all of which, and more, so-called likely Republican voters giving a significant enough thumbs-up to a Trump side show performance seems not much of an oddity, where Republicans are concerned.

Fact is, Trump may be the most obscenely distasteful of the lot but among the cast of characters vying for the nomination there's no shortage of weirdos who would lead the country God only knows where, if given the chance. Conservative extremists like Rick Perry, Rick Santorum,

Viewpoint

By Les Slater

Scott Walker and others in the mad GOP scramble may not have the Trump capacity to make themselves super-obnoxious, but they don't cede much to Trump as far as their ambitions for taking the country into a darker, more regressive place.

The recent Supreme Court decisions on the Affordable Care Act and marriage equality highlighted the energy in the conservative sector for stopping in its tracks anything that hints at embracing a 21st century outlook for the country. There's no one among the Republicans running for president who is on the side of what the high court decided in those two matters, with the possible exception of a contender whose name is hardly ever mentioned, former New York Governor George Pataki. And what's amazing is that the presidential wannabes adopt hard-line

positions on the recent court rulings and other front-burner issues, little concerned that theirs is not a reflection of majority sentiment among the population. Indeed, two high court conservatives, Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Anthony Kennedy, were not surprisingly blasted across the conservative spectrum for daring to cast votes that mirrored the views of the hoi polloi.

That conservative disconnect with popular sentiment makes a GOP House majority since 2011, a GOP Senate majority as of this year and GOP control of most of the state houses around the country difficult to reconcile. On its face, the idea that Republicans, touting values that are out of step with most of the polity, could exercise a disproportionate amount of control doesn't seem to add up. Thoughts again turn to the high court and the infamous Citizens United decision that allowed unlimited, unregulated funds into the electioneering process and brought names like the Koch brothers front and center as shapers of the nation's political

course — a decision in which the votes then cast by Justices Roberts and Kennedy made for the great un-leveling of the political playing field, turning participatory democracy on its head.

We thus have an environment in which a Trump revels. Spewing racist venom as he did against the Mexicans, his was a direct appeal to the haters like himself on the Republican side of the divide. We of course had heard him play that song before, even targeting the president of the United States, no less. The Republican crowd, even as partial as it has been known to be on occasion to extremist hucksters, will likely humor Trump only but so long. Obama's being elected president has set in motion this frenzy among a collection of right-side kooks, that any of them could do likewise. Sometime between now and when the next president is sworn in, the kooks will have come to realize, we think, that those dreams of relatively easy elevation to the White House are pure myth.



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Yearning for a Caribbean lifestyle

Continued from page 10

— which is coupled with fees — sell all of our belongings and rely on hope that we find a bartending gig in some far away island where nobody knows your name.

I applaud Noelle Hancock for taking such a gamble and for the many like her that are living successful lives in the beautiful Caribbean. The inner traveler in me is yearning for a summer that

could be spent finding new adventures while jumping from island to island or even country to country. Unfortunately, aside from owing my soul to my alma mater currently and paying New York City prices for food and shelter — those travel wishes can currently only amount to a one-week vacation.

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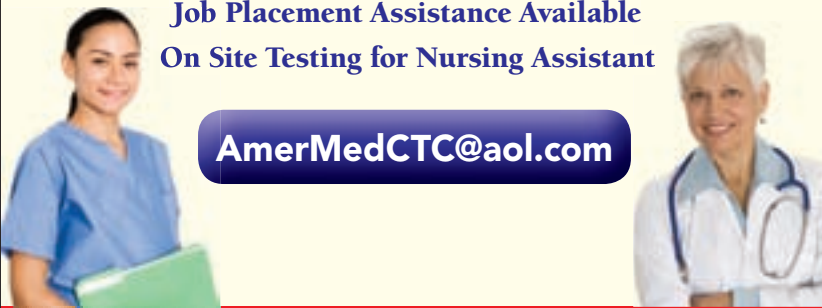
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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

He said stronger economic activity has supported program implementation, although unemployment remains elevated.

Zhu said Grenada is well advanced in its ambitions fiscal adjustment and in restoring debt sustainability.

He said good progress has been achieved in advancing the regional banking system, coordinated by the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank.

Guyana

Former Guyana President Bharath Jagdeo has been named as Opposition Leader by the main opposition People's Progressive Party/Civic, even though it is still to determine whether or not he will take up the position in the National Assembly.

PPP/C General Secretary Clement Rohee told a news conference recently that the PP's list of legislators has already identified and the party's list of regional representative has been forwarded to the Guyana Elections Commission.

Rohee confirmed that a report in a daily newspaper in Guyana identifying Jagdeo as Opposition Leader was true and that it was now left to the former head of state to accept the position.

The report noted that Jagdeo, who served as president from 1999-2011, was seen as the most suitable candidate from a list that also included former president Donald Ramoutar.

The PPP/C controls 32 of the 65 seats in the National Assembly, but the party has claimed that the May 16 poll was rigged and has since filed a petition to declare the results null and void.

Jamaica

Damion Bryan Barrett, the first Jamaican to be extradited to the United States to face lottery fraud charges, has been sentenced to almost four years in a U.S. federal prison.

Barrett, 29, who pleaded guilty earlier this year of being part of a wire fraud conspiracy, was sentenced recently when he appeared in a south Florida court.

District Judge Williams Zloch sentenced Barrett to 46 months in prison and ordered to pay US\$94,456 in restitution.

If he receives a job in prison that pays wages, he would have to turn over half of it toward the judgment.

He was also sentenced to five years unsupervised probation after his release and ordered to pay 10 percent of his monthly earnings toward the judgment.

Barrett was part of a conspiracy that tricked senior citizens into believing that they had won millions of dollars and as a result, needed to pay advance fees to claim their winnings.

The sweepstakes scam that operated between late 2008 and 2012, used middlemen in South Florida to collect cash from victim all over the U.S.

The middlemen took a percentage and sent the rest to Barrett in Jamaica.

According to prosecutors, this case could pave the way to holding foreigners accountable for preying on Americans.

Suriname

President Desi Bouterse has fired Paul Somohardjo as the acting Speaker in a move he said was aimed at avoiding a possible legislative and constitutional crisis in Suriname.

Somohardjo, the oldest elected legislator, was sworn in recently by Bouterse in order to convene the first session of the new Parliament following general elections last month.

But Bouterse told reporters he had no other choice than to relieve Somohardjo of his duties after the legislator sent a letter to him indicating he wasn't able to convene the meeting.

"I had no other choice than to dismiss Mr. Somohardjo since his actions would have created a constitutional incident if by June 30 the new parliament hasn't been sworn in," he said.

Somohardjo, during a meeting with Bouterse, had said he needed more time to prepare the inaugural session of the legislative, but the head of state argued that it would have been against the constitution since the term of the current parliament ended on June 30, exactly five years after it was inaugurated.

The acting Speaker said that taking into account the results of the May 25 general elections were only confirmed on June 15, that newly-elected members of Parliament should be sworn in no later than 30 days, making July 15, the appropriate day to begin the new parliament.

In the general elections Bouterse's National Democratic Party secured 26 seats in the 51-seat parliament.

However, legal experts are questioning whether or not Bouterse has constitutional powers to fire the acting Speaker.

Trinidad

A new air transport agreement signed between Trinidad and Tobago and Canada is expected to further boost trade and tourism between the two countries.

Speaking at the signing ceremony held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Port of Spain, Foreign Minister Winston Dookeran described the agreement as an important milestone.

"Trinidad and Tobago will benefit by being able to do more flexible routing to Canada via other countries, also with respect to coming from other countries to Trinidad," he explained.

Noting that Trinidad and Tobago's last air services agreement with Canada was signed in 1971, High Commissioner of Canada to Trinidad and Tobago Gerard Latulippe said, once ratified, the new agreement will replace the former agreement.

— Compiled by Azad Ali



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Belizean sustainable fisher receives award



Anna sells the produce that her children catch at the Punta Gorda market.

By CRFM

Since she was seven years old, Anna Ramirez, now 63, has been fishing with her family off the coast of Belize's southernmost district – Toledo, but her gender has not stopped her from working just as hard as the men do while at sea.

Her most challenging moments have involved braving the rough seas, even under the threat of hurricanes, to ensure they make it to shore safely. "It's not easy. You have to be brave and willing to take chances – big chances too!" she said.

"The same way a man could fish, you can. The same way they drive an engine, you could do it too. The same way they could throw a net, you could throw a net!" Anna says. "It's the way they raised me," she later explained.

Mrs. Ramirez has three brothers and seven sisters, and like her brothers—Carlos, Daniel, Eugenio—she took up fishing for a living. She is the

daughter of Francisco Castellanos and Petrona Flores, who once lived on several islands off the coast of southern Belize, including Punta Ycacos, Punta Negra and Wilson Caye.

The area where they traditionally fished was declared the Port Honduras Marine Reserve Area in 2000, and today, the family says that the introduction of a managed access program there by the Belize Fisheries Department has notably helped to reduce illegal fishing in the area, thus improving their fish catch. Notably, Mrs. Ramirez was instrumental in the establishment of the reserve.

Anna married Rafael Ramirez, who is also a fisher. They have, in turn, taught their children to fish and five of them are still active: Carlos, George, Roy, Armando, who is the chairman of the Rio Grande Fishermen's Cooperative in Punta Gorda, and Anna, who is the secretary of the Toledo Fisherman Association and the president of

the Toledo Dry Fruit women's group. Genny, who does scuba diving with the Toledo Institute for Development and Environment – TIDE, does so to a lesser extent. Her other daughter, Claudio Olivarez, lives in Corozal in northern Belize and works as a teacher at a Seventh Day Adventist high school in Calcutta Village.

Mrs. Ramirez said that her biggest reward is having been able to train her children, teaching them what she knows. "It is a very good feeling!" she said.

While the elder Anna no longer routinely fishes, most of her nine children, including her namesake, still do, and she markets their produce at the Punta Gorda Town market in Toledo, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. She does not sell at the market on Saturdays, since she has observed the Sabbath for the past 35-40 years.

She said that her fishing career has made her an independent woman, and she never

fails to urge young people to learn the trade so that they too can become independent people.

Although it is rare for a woman to choose a career as a fisher, gender is not the real

Continued on Page 20

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Healthy twists on Caribbean dishes

By Alley Olivier

Can organic, healthy and Caribbean be said all in the same sentence?

Words such as rich and heavy are often used to describe Caribbean food with jerk chicken, rice and peas and more leading the charge with hefty portions. Nola Ro is combatting these affiliations with her healthy twists on what Caribbean American food can be from tasty hummus filled cucumber bites to coconut wings.

Ro is the founder and mastermind behind “new” catering company, Sumptuous Bites, already serving 12 clients. Her entrepreneurial spirit is etched into her genes, following the footsteps of her mother. “I think it has to be in my blood because my mother has always been a business woman,” Ro said. “It wasn’t until I was 18 or 19 that I really started working with her. She had a restaurant already and I started working with her and it really became clear to me that I never wanted to work for anybody else.”

After working with her mother for a little over a decade, Ro was ready to branch off and take the next step. Falling back on her talents, a catering company seemed like the most logical and organic route to follow.

“Food and cooking is something that is just second nature, I love it. A catering company just seemed like the



Attendees sampling the Hummus filled Cucumber Cups.

Photo courtesy of Sumptuous Bites

most natural thing to do based on my background and experiences,” Ro said.

Officially launching her catering company Sunday, June 28 at The Hill Lounge located on Church Avenue between East 46th and 47th streets, Ro exposed friends, family and strangers to her tasty creations.

“I’m Jamaican so being introduced to all this Caribbean – Guyanese flavor – I’m not used to it but I’m enjoying it,” Kevin Temporal said.

Jamaican descendant Temporal describes Ro’s take on Caribbean food to be different than what he is accustomed to. Aside from her Guyanese roots

shining through her dishes, Temporal appreciates the different flavors and healthy twists. “It’s not expected but it’s really good and I am dying to try these coconut wings,” Temporal added.

Accompanied by the sounds of the steel pan in the backyard of the venue, all in attendance enjoyed Ro’s staple cocktails and sample portions of her reimagined Caribbean food. Taking an Italian staple, ravioli, Ro reinvents the pasta dish by filling it with callaloo and drizzling it with a Guyanese curry sauce. Another staple and favorite on the menu are her “Fun N’Flirty Fish Cakes.”

Filled with gratitude and love

by the support she has received since embarking on this journey, Ro’s constant driving force comes from the love she has for her four-year-old son Pharaoh. Her number one supporter, cheerleader and helper, Pharaoh is already showing off his culinary talents in the kitchen.

“He’s doing very well with reading so he reads his own recipes. He knows what needs to go into the dish, he’ll help me mix them — the only thing he doesn’t get to do is anything with the stove or fire or anything that can injure him,” Ro said.

The self-proclaimed “mompreneur” prides herself in creating food that is delicious

and good for you — rich in flavor but light on your body.

“My menu is Caribbean and American fusion. I have a lot of vegan and vegetarian options as well. I would also like to point out what gives my company a difference or an edge from other companies that are doing a similar thing is that my ingredients are not processed,” Ro said.

Although Sumptuous Bites was made public June 28, Ro has already catered many events during the past six months. From book launches to weddings, Sumptuous Bites combats the “you serve curry chicken” stigma with her versatile menu.

This is only the beginning for Ro. While she juggles being a mother to her four-year-old son Pharaoh, helping her mother with their restaurant, managing “Make Food Not War” blog and her rising client list for Sumptuous Bites, the serial entrepreneur is already working on her next venture: an Internet cooking show.

“Pretty soon I will be recording an online cooking show. I love being in the kitchen and I think it’s a great way for bringing awareness to this idea of a healthier, more nutritious, Caribbean type of food,” Ro said.

Follow Nola Ro, Sumptuous Bites and her upcoming ventures at sumptuousbites.com.

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www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.htm

Selected business-related web sites compiled by staff at the New York State Library for use in response to reference questions.

Start a Business in New York — Resources for New York Small Businesses

manhattan.about.com/od/careersjobs/a/nysmallbusiness.htm

Find resources and advice on starting a business in New York City. Get information on New York business licenses and incorporation, free NYC resources for starting a business.

Your Money New York - Help and Resources for Small Businesses

www.yourmoneyny.com/help-resource/smallbusiness/index.php
This section of Your Money New York is designed to help small business owners – and New Yorkers interested in starting a small business.

Small Business Resources - The Business Council of New York

www.bcnys.org/inside/smallbusiness.htm

Capital Business Blog - Read about the issues.

Visit www.nyfirst.ny.gov to learn what New York State can do for businesses.

Resources for Businesses in New York City - bfindapc.com

www.bfindapc.com/...business-resource.../resources-for-businesses-i
If you operate a business in New York City, you are especially fortunate. The city has pulled together a wealth of resources for small business owners.

Small Business Resource Guide - New York - HUD

www.hud.gov/offices/osdbu/resource/guide/local/newyork.cfm
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Fisher award

Continued from page 16

reason why Anna Ramirez is deemed outstanding. It is her commitment and dedication to hard work, to encouraging the young people to take up the mantle—but moreover, to do so sustainably.

It is for these reasons that she was chosen for special recognition as the winner of the “Punta Fuego Outstanding Fisher of the Year Award,” which was presented on the occasion of the first ever Fisherman’s Day festivities in Belize on Monday, June 29, 2015.

In addition to the Punta Fuego award, she received a cash award from the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), whose Executive Director, Milton Haughton, lauded Mrs. Ramirez, who now stands out as a role model for the entire Caribbean, for her milestone achievement.

Punta Fuego, a drama which airs on Love FM, is also the name of a fictional coastal village in Belize, where Richie, a young fisherman, is put to the test when deceit and danger come to his village.

Mrs. Anna Ramirez was nominated for the award by Marla Ramirez of the Fisheries Department, who described her as, “not only a responsible fisher and advocate but a Belizean sustainable fisher.”

“She has always taught her children to take out what is necessary and put back what is small. She is a strong advocate for size limits on finfish especially snappers and grunts,” said Marla Ramirez. “Mrs. Anna has seen fishing change over the past decades and realizes that it is important to manage the fisheries in a sustainable manner.”

Her sons dive for conch and lobster, but the family also catches a lot of finfish using drop lines or hand lines. Anna said that they don’t use nets anymore because of the regulations introduced to govern fishing at the reserve.

She has taught her children to leave the small fish to live and catch the bigger ones.

At the age of 34, the younger Anna is still fishing with her brothers and applying the wisdom her mother taught her. She fishes during the day and attends night school at Claver College Extension. She plans to attend the University of Belize afterwards to be qualified as a nurse, although she doesn’t plan to give up fishing.

Her earnings from fishing are helping her to pay for her education. She may earn BZ\$50 to BZ\$100 a day, depending on what they catch and how much. The mother of four says that this is adequate for her to raise her family.

The younger Anna Ramirez started fishing when she was 13 and she did that until she was 22. Her husband, a tour guide, wanted her to be a homemaker and so she quit fishing for seven years, but today, Anna, who is now single, is back fishing with her brothers off the shores of Toledo, in the area of the Port Honduras Marine Reserve – the family’s traditional fishing grounds.

Her mother, Mrs. Anna Ramirez, said that she has 33 grandchildren, and those who live in the community also go out to sea, particularly during the summer vacation. Joash Ramirez, 13, her daughter Anna’s son, dives and gets a portion of the family’s earnings to help take care of his school expenses, his mother said, demonstrating how the fishing tradition has been passed down to the fourth generation in her family.

While Mrs. Anna Ramirez is hopeful about the prospect of her grandchildren being able to earn a decent living in the industry, she emphasized the need for authorities to crack down on illegal fishing by foreigners who come from the neighboring countries to the south of Belize. She said that this sort of illegal fishing is currently the greatest threat to the industry.

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Guyana awards

Continued from page 3

Alliance was critical of the divisiveness that she said has “destroyed our nation”, and called on her fellow citizens to pledge to “renew national spirit and our inheritance of hospitality, unity and cohesiveness.”

Bishop John Cummings, Hindu Pandit Tilachdharry Seeratan and Muslim Imam Hajji Zakir blessed the commemoration in keeping with Guyana’s multicultural heritage, after which, 11-year old Kamiyah Parchment delivered the national anthem.

Punctuated by all things Guyanese, included the Golden Arrowhead flag that littered the rotunda of the municipal building, emcees Tanuga Ragoo and Jonathon Locke brilliantly shared in the richness of Guyana’s cultural diversity during presentations by Dr. Keith Proctor, “Glory” movement by Impressions Dance Theatre, and a Unity in Motion choreography by Shawn Shazim.

Drums of Freedom and Unity performed by Akoya Rudder and Winston Hoppie and a fashion extravaganza showcasing Sonia Noel’s multi-layered talents, capped the vibrant independence celebration which was attended by more than 500 nationals.

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Union Islanders see their beaches disappear



Allan Providence, a senior officer at Union Island Airport, says he has seen the sea rise significantly over the past 22 years.
Inter Press Service / Kenton X. Chance

By Kenton X. Chance

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent, July 1, 2015 (IPS) - Fifteen years ago, Stephanie Browne, a former Member of Parliament in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, needed only to look at the beach outside her house to know why her community in Union Island was called "Big Sand."

So expansive were the beach and dunes that people played cricket games there without getting wet.

Today, just a few feet of sand remain, saved only by the large boulders that have been placed more than 20 feet into the sea, where the fence for Browne's property once stood.

"There could have been other reasons but I think climate change is the main reason for losing that beach down there," Browne, who retired from politics 15 years ago, tells IPS.

"The water is too deep to show you where our fence was because a part of our fence is now way out in the sea and we have lost land for a number of years," she says.

"What we've had to do is to use the boulders to try to keep our land and that's why we are able to still have a little beach there. If not, there would absolutely be no beach," she explains.

Browne tells IPS that she estimates the amount of land lost is enough to build a two-bedroom house of the type common in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, complete with a yard and fencing.

"There was a lot of sand and a lot of beach. Now, we have a lot of rocks, trying to save what we can," she says.

Union Island is one of the southern-most islands in the archipelagic nation of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, a country of 32 islands, islets and cays.

Unlike St. Vincent, the "main island," the Grenadines has the white sand beaches commonly associated with tourism, the main revenue earner on the island and the country.

But rising seas, blamed on climate change, are beginning to imperil the beaches on the

five-kilometre by three-kilometre island of 3,000 people.

Allan Providence, a senior officer at Union Island Airport, was born in St. Vincent but has been living in Union Island for 22 years.

"I know exactly what the island was like before it came to this point," he tells IPS while standing on the sliver of sand that remains at Big Sand.

"What you are seeing here, this location, this is a structure that they used to have beach-orama and picnics and so on, and even out in the water where you are seeing the water is breaking now was where people would congregate, partying," Providence says, pointing to an area 30 to 40 feet away.

The structure to which he referred is a concrete building with a zinc roof that has begun to collapse as the rising water undermines its foundation.

"But now, we have the sea is here. So, over the years, it has really degraded and brought it to this point," Providence tells

IPS.

"The water is rising and the sea is coming in, and that would definitely be as a result of climate change. Definitely. It was never like this," Providence tells IPS.

Residents of Union Island are doing what they can to highlight the impact of climate change.

One way that this is being done is through Radio Grenadines, an Internet radio station that was officially launched on June 12, two years after it was founded in the bedrooms of two residents.

The launch of the not-for-profit radio station coincided with the graduation of 21 its

contributors from a media training course endorsed by the Association of Caribbean Media Workers.

The training programme focused on using media to spread awareness about climate change and what can be done at the level of the citizen. It was funded by the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP).

Speaking at the graduation ceremony, Haydn Billingsy, national co-ordinator of the GEF, noted that the National Anthem of St. Vincent and the Grenadines celebrates the seas and "golden sands" of the Grenadines.

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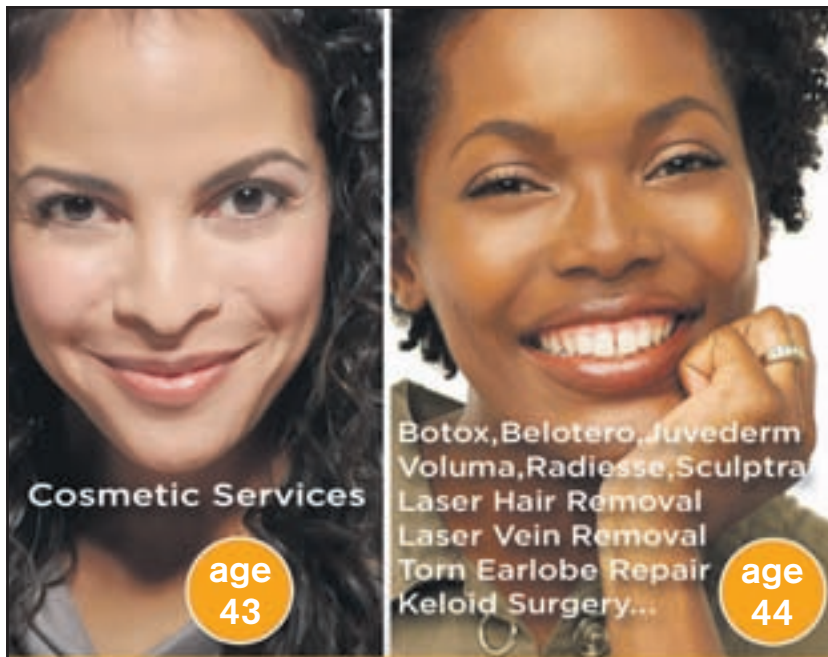
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Members of the Hamalali Wayunagu Garifuna Folkloric at the 15th Annual South Jersey Caribbean Festival at Wiggins Park at the Camden waterfront.

South Jersey Carib festival celebrates 15th anniversary

By Nelson A. King

The South Jersey Caribbean Cultural and Development Organization (SJCCDO) last Saturday celebrated its 15th Annual South Jersey Caribbean Festival

at Wiggins Park at the Camden waterfront.

The free cultural event showcased Caribbean art, music, food and dance, encompassing diverse aspects of the Caribbean,

including fire eaters, limbo dancers, salsa dancers, steel drum, and reggae and calypso / soca music.

The multi-cultural family event attracted Caribbean and

other nationals from the New Jersey and Philadelphia regions, with dynamic entertainment and Caribbean food favorites, such as jerk chicken, oxtail, curry shrimp and roti.

There were also free activities in the children's tent, community information, health screenings, Caribbean food vendors and gifts.

The event, adjacent to the Adventure Aquarium and the Susquehanna Bank Center, attracted international and local artistes, who enwrapped attend-

ees with energetic cultural dance and musical performances at the Wiggins Park concert stage.

Artistes included international recording artist Curtis C, Navel String, Philly Dilly, Jackie, and Wise Guy from St. Vincent and the Grenadines; Hamalali Wayunagu Garifuna Folkloric Dance Company; and Nu Image Band from Dominica.

Performers also comprised soca fitness dancers; Philadelphia Pan Stars; and the Kaos Mas Band, winners of the 2015 Philly Caribbean Carnival.

Kaos masqueraders delighted the crowd with their colorful costumes, adding to "island atmosphere", according to SJCCDO president and festival coordinator Kylla Herbert.

Artistes from the Camden-based groups, Unity Community Center's African Dance and Drum Ensemble, Camden's Sophisticated Sisters (CSS), and Poet Ras Niger Ali, were also on hand.

The organizers paid tribute to the organizing group's founder, the late Nkem Tshombe, a native of Nevis, the sister isle of St. Kitts, and Camden City resident for 30 years.

"The SJCCDO relies solely on donations and sponsors to present this free cultural experience to the community," said Herbert, Tshombe's daughter.



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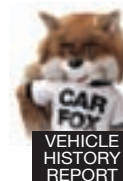
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The life of a 1960s Harlem kid

"Finding Samuel Lowe: China, Jamaica, Harlem"

by Paula Williams Madison
c.2015, Amistad
\$25.99 / \$31.99 Canada
276 pages

BOOK REVIEW

to a man who'd threatened her son – but she was also quietly sentimental. To Nell, nothing was more important than family and she insisted that her three children remain close, maybe because Nell had no parents or known siblings of her own.

Though they were estranged, Madison knew her mother and dad loved her. That, in fact, was a repeated theme she heard as a child: Nell often said that Madison was lucky to know a father's love. On that, Nell didn't elaborate much and she rarely discussed her childhood, leading Madison to wonder about her mother's father...

Over time, she learned that Samuel Lowe had left China for Jamaica in the early 1900s and later became a shopkeeper, having little-to-no contact with his "outside child" before returning to China in 1933, when Nell was 15. This, perhaps, caused the "persistent and painful sense of loss" Madison felt her entire life: her mother's hurt had become hers. She imagined finding her grandfather.

In late 2011, she finally seized the chance.

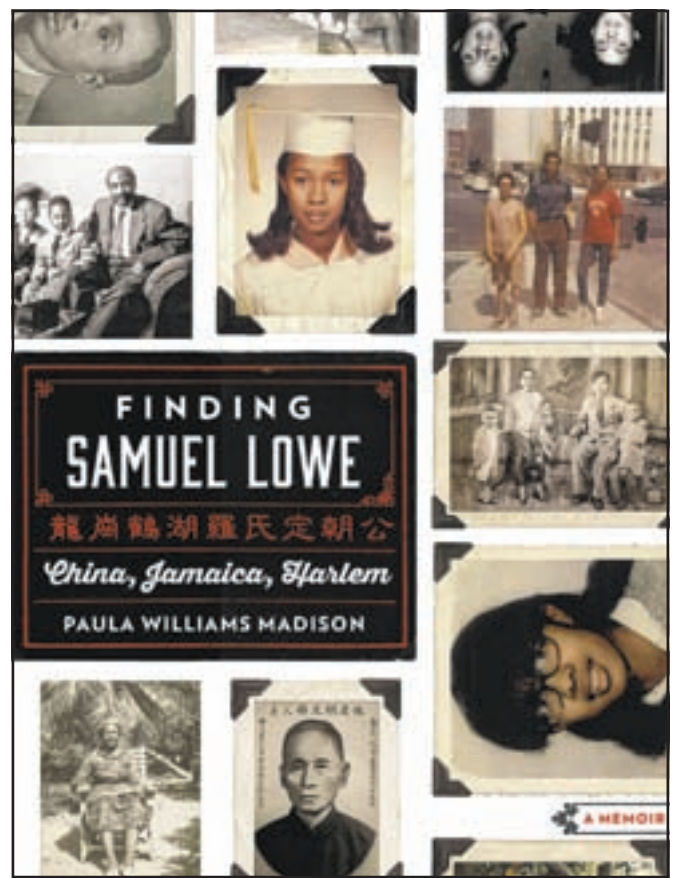
"Samuel Lowe" was too common a name for online searches, but querying elderly relatives offered clues and a long-lost cousin who informed Madison about an "alumni reunion" in Toronto. Someone else led her to a contact who knew some Lowes in China.

One of them was Samuel Lowe's son.

There's a lot to like about "Finding Samuel Lowe." There's a lot to learn here, too, but first, you'll have to ready yourself.

Be prepared, for example, not to fret over things that are hard to follow in this book. Author Paula Williams Martin includes a lengthy and highly-convoluted family tree that's often "duppyproofed" with false names and birthdates. Seriously, the Book of Genesis is easier to follow than those sections; you're best off just accepting that it mightn't make sense.

Get past that, though, ignore the repetition, and you'll find a



Book cover of "Finding Samuel Lowe: China, Jamaica, Harlem."

fascinating family memoir that peeks inside the life of a 1960s Harlem kid, takes readers back a century to Jamaica, and then reads like a detective story. In

those parts, pay attention: Martin writes with such passion that it's a treat to see how finding her grandfather means finding herself.

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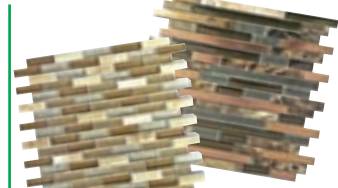
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*Pertains to 5 ft. oak Starter set. **Pertains to special advertised lot. ***Pertains to Tuscany Hazel Shaker Cabinets advertised in today's ad. All sales final. Not responsible for type errors or omissions. Photos for illustration only.

Reggaefarians rally 'Round the Red, Gold & Green

KINGSTON, Jamaica — On one day, July One — acclaimed by reggae music lovers as International Reggae Day — a global celebration by more than 23 countries dominated the music industry by hosting events marking 21 years of tribute to the genre birthed in Jamaica.

Using the theme — “Unite Inspire, and Uplift” the first ever calendar event in the world to be officially proclaimed and dedicated to celebrating reggae music successfully corralled legions to acknowledge the explosive sound that brands Jamaica’s best export.

According to Andrea Davis, its founder, IRD was created “in an effort to highlight important individuals, institutions and milestones that have shaped Jamaica’s creative legacy and added to its brand value.”

In addition to its unique synopated rhythm, reggae is also “associated with Rastafarianism and reflects the lifestyle, the ideals of freedom and the fight of the followers of the philosophical-religious doctrine.”

This year, proclamations from Honolulu, Hawaii and Florida, USA added to endorsements of the day’s activities.



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

On the first day of the month, IRD paid special tribute to Jamaica’s sound system movement which emerged in the 1950s and after 65 years boasts Merritone Music as the world’s oldest.

IRD 2015 Awards were presented to Winston Blake whose family has consistently provided the sounds Jamaicans appreciate regardless of genre. Using his popular Merritone Music sound-system Blake and his family of deejays provides entertaining music that is distinctly reggae but also often mixed with country, pop or rhythm and blues.

Also distinguished in the same category were: King Jammy, Stone Love Movement, Prince Buster’s Voice of the People and champion advocate for operators of the systems: the late Louise Fraser-Bennett. Japanese sound system benefactors Mighty Crown and the Jamaica Sound System Federation were also honored.

They were all regaled for dedi-

cated and consistent promotion to the unique delivery of Jamaica and also “in recognition of its fundamental and pioneering role in the development and internationalization of Jamaican music and lifestyle culture.”

Reportedly, throughout July One, reggae fans converged on social media using Instagram to register salutations and acknowledgements of the 24-hour, eventful anniversary festival. Marley family members posted separately with positive messages from Cedella, Rohan, Kymani, Busta Rhymes, Reggae Sumfest, Butch Stewart’s son Adam using the hash tag #Thisismyreggae

Incorporating the significance of the date and the spirit of One — (perhaps in testament to a Oneness — One Love etc) IRD organizers emphasized a need for meditation during the celebratory day and at Emancipation Park in Kingston hosted a period of the day dedicated



Dancehall DJ Bounty Killa joins veterans Winston “Merritones” Blake, King Jammy, and Stone Love deejays to show off his IRD award.
Photo by Steve James

to yoga.

In Mumbai, a live stream from Café Nemo featured Delhi Sultanate and Begum X, India’s foremost reggae and dancehall artists. The duo has opened for Snoop Lion and Julian Marley in India and has toured the U.S., Europe and Afghanistan “taking reggae music to new frontiers.”

In Australia, Dubai, England, Canada, France, in cities throughout the United States Anchored in Jamaica, an all-day conference, an afternoon digital display of reggae poster

contestants, an evening marathon concert at Countryside Club and numerous radio and ...made the island a virtual reggae destination for visitors and returning nationals to identify. At the Kingston airport — Norman Manley International — a welcome billboard strategically placed just before arriving passengers step onto the island brandished a message President Barack Obama might appreciate and would definitely identify with his recent “wha ah gwaan massive?”

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Comedian Osei Caleb on stage at the Amarachi Lounge.

Photo courtesy of Ginger Candy

Hot 'N spicy but clean comedy

By Alley Olivier

It is said that laughter is good for your health.

A hearty laugh can change the outlook of a bad day, even if only for the few moments a chuckle might last.

Keeping things relatively clean, funny and very Caribbean all at once is Ginger Candy Comedy spear headed by Shelley Davis and comedian Robert "Sinck" Sinckler.

Running off and on for 15 years and

Continued on Page 36

Loads of fun at Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival

A cultural extravaganza to dial up the fun is what organizers have planned for the 5th Annual Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival NY on Sunday, July 19, 2015 at Roy Wilkins Park, Queens, New York. The popular Western Union Cultural Stage, with the multi-talented MC Sherry Morgan, promise loads of fun for adults and kids alike as fans feast on their favorite jerk cuisine.

"When you say "fun" you probably think back to your childhood, your youth — so we will be featuring a lot of nostalgic performances on the West-

Continued on Page 36



Beenie Man performs onstage at the BET Awards at the Nokia Theatre on Sunday, June 30, 2013, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press / Invision / Frank Micelotta, File

REGGAE SUMMFEST

Common to add heat to Reggae show

By Vinette K. Pryce

KINGSTON, Jamaica – The buzz has begun about Reggae Sumfest, the acclaimed "greatest reggae show on earth."

Slated to begin next week at Catherine Hall in Montego Bay, some of the biggest names in reggae are billed.

Beenie Man, Konshens, Jesse Royal, Capleton, Cocoa Tea, I-Octane, Lady Saw, Popcaan among them and for the first time the genre's rising sensation, Gully Bop.

"Reggae is an important part of our culture and we are pleased to see how this genre has been embraced globally," Paul Pennicook, Jamaica's director of Tourism said.

"The superb offerings of our musicians have been a constant attractor for visitors to Jamaica. They have been some of our notable ambassadors, taking our music to every corner of the globe."

And while reggae will get its props each and every night, this year, rapper Common, r&b singer Jennifer

Hudson and Empire television star Yazz hope to snatch a piece of the cheers from the discriminating crowd.

"We are elated to have a performer of the magnitude of Common on the Reggae Sumfest stage," Johnny Gourzong, executive director of Summerfest Productions, producers of the event said.

"He is a versatile artist and undoubtedly he will add something very special that our audience will be

Continued on Page 36

UPDATE FROM WIADCA 2015

The West Indian American Day Carnival Association, Inc. (WIADCA) wishes to thank everyone who has assisted in its growth over the past 48 years. Expressions of gratitude and thanks to all our Members, Volunteers, Sponsors and Supporters.

WIADCA prides itself on the inclusion and the celebration of the rich cultural contributions of all Caribbean nations to the world. Over the course of its almost 50 year existence, WIADCA has partnered with many corporate sponsors and small businesses to bring culture, joy and camaraderie to millions each year. WIADCA also partners with a diverse set of cultural organizations and individuals with origins from both within and outside of the Caribbean to accomplish our goal.

WIADCA's current leadership and volunteers who make substantial contributions to the organization on a regular basis have roots in countries such as **Grenada, Guyana, St. Vincent, Italy, the United States, Anguilla, Trinidad & Tobago, Jamaica, Dominica, Barbados, Haiti and Panama amongst others.** In fact, WIADCA has always embraced persons from other nationalities in its Membership and Board of Directors. Persons from Guyana, Grenada, Italy, Jamaica and the US have been part of WIADCA for more than 35 years. The organization continues to seek out partners, members and volunteers with specialized expertise from a diverse set of cultural backgrounds and nationalities.

Operating solely due to the year round efforts of a dedicated group of volunteers, general members and Board members, WIADCA is always working to improve, expand and partner as much as possible, while reserving the right to foster partnership, membership and volunteerism that will serve the best interests of the organization. We determine the eligibility of those roles based on criteria that support cultural stewardship, goodwill and overall cultural advancement in a manner that is in furtherance of WIADCA's mission. At the same time, we applaud the efforts of, and stand in solidarity with, other groups/individuals that wish to promote and make public their enthusiasm and support for **Caribbean Cultural Heritage and Traditions.** As we have done in the past, we will continue to strengthen those relationships based upon community feedback. We look forward to continuing to build upon past successes by providing NYC with quality cultural enrichment.



Tango Negro, a musical documentary.

Photo courtesy of Rotten Tomatoes

Independent & Foreign Films

10,000 Km (R for profanity, graphic sexuality and brief frontal nudity) Romantic dramedy, set in L.A. and Barcelona, about a couple's (David Verdager and Natalia

Tena) struggle to maintain a long-distance relationship. (In Spanish, Catalan and English with subtitles)

The Breakup Girl (Unrated) Dysfunctional family dramedy revolving around the stormy reunion of three estranged sisters (Shannon Woodward, Natasha Leggero and Wendi McClendon-Covey) necessitated by the death of their father. With Catherine Bach, Casey Wilson and Mary Kay Place.

Do I Sound Gay? (Unrated) Auditory documentary exploring the question of whether homosexuals have readily-identifiable voices. Featuring commentary by David Sedaris, Tim Gunn, George Takei, comedienne Margaret Cho and relationship advice guru Dan Savage.

Meet Me in Montenegro (Unrated) Romantic comedy, set in Berlin, where a chance meeting has an American filmmaker (Alex Holdridge) falling in love again with the Norwegian dancer (Linnea Saasen) who dumped him in Montenegro several years earlier. Cast includes Jennifer Ulrich, Rupert Friend and Ben Braun. (In English and German with subtitles)

Nowitzki: The Perfect Shot (Unrated) Reverential biopic highlighting the scientific approach to basketball taken by Dirk Nowitzki, as well as the NBA All-Star's long-term relationship with his mentor, German physicist Holger Geschwindner. Featuring appearances by Jason Kidd, Kobe Bryant, Mark Cuban and Steve Nash. (In English and German with subtitles)

SlingShot (Unrated) Eco-documentary chronicling the efforts of Segway inventor Dean Kamen to solve the world's burgeoning water crisis.

Stations of the Cross (Unrated) Coming-of-age drama about a devout, 14-year-old Catholic's (Lea van Acken) attempt to reenact the last days of



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

Christ's life, much to the chagrin of her disapproving mother (Franziska Weisz) and a smitten classmate (Moritz Knapp) with a crush on her. With Michael Kamp, Lucie Aron and Anna Brüggermann. (In German, French and Latin with subtitles)

Strangerland (R for profanity, sexuality and brief nudity) Australian thriller about a couple's (Nicole Kidman and Joseph Fiennes) frantic search for the son (Nicholas Hamilton) and daughter (Maddison Brown) who disappeared just before a dust storm engulfed their desert town. Cast includes Sean Keenan, Meyne Wyatt and Benedict Hardie.

The Suicide Theory (R for profanity, sexuality and graphic violence) Unlikely-buddies drama about a suicidal loner (Leon Cain) who hires a hit man (Steve Mouzakis) to kill him. With Joss McWilliam, Matthew Scully and Todd Levi.

Tangerine (R for frontal nudity, drug use, pervasive profanity and graphic, disturbing sexuality) Gender-bending dramedy, set in Tinseltown, revolving around a recently-paroled, transsexual prostitute (Kitana Kiki Rodriguez) who spends Christmas Eve searching for the pimp (James Ransone) who broke her heart. With Mya Taylor, Karren Karagulian and Mickey O'Hagan.

Tango Negro (Unrated) Musical documentary, set in Argentina and Uruguay, explores the African roots of the Tango. (In Spanish with subtitles)

What We Did on Holiday (PG-13 for profanity and mature themes) Marital crisis comedy about a British couple (Rosamund Pike and David Tennant) trying to hide their impending divorce while vacationing with relatives in Scotland. Support cast includes Billy Connolly, Ben Miller and Emilia Jones.

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11-yr-old struggles to control her emotions

“Inside Out”
Excellent (4 stars)
Rated PG for action
and mature themes
Running time:
94 minutes
Distributor: Pixar
Animation / Walt
Disney Studios



Riley's (Kaitlyn Dias) emotions: Disgust (Mindy Kaling), left, Anger (Lewis Black), center, Fear (Bill Hader) in film “Inside Out.”
Photo courtesy of Rotten Tomatoes

By Kam Williams

Riley (Kaitlyn Dias) was understandably unhappy when she learned from her mother (Diane Lane) and father (Kyle MacLachlan) that the family was relocating from Minnesota to San Francisco. After all, she'd be leaving behind her home, her hockey team and all her BFFs.

So, it's no surprise that the uprooted 11-year-old might be very lonely after moving to the Bay Area. And, unfortunately, that solitary condition leads to an inordinate amount of introspection as she attempts to sort out her emotions, literally and figuratively.

For, her feelings aren't merely metaphysical experiences but five actual little figurines living

inside her brain. This anthropomorphic quintet, composed of Joy (Amy Poehler), Sadness (Phyllis Smith), Fear (Bill Hader), Anger (Lewis Black) and Disgust (Mindy Kaling), are constantly contending for control of rattled

Riley's moods as she navigates her way around a new house, city and school.

That struggle is the subject of “Inside Out,” the best animated offering from the talented team at Pixar since the

equally-affective balloon adventure “Up” (2009). Don't allow the the awkward-sounding premise revolving around a melancholy kid who's a bit of a head case turn you off, as the material is handled delicately enough to be

appropriate for a child of any age.

A touching tale illustrating how a dramatic life change might, temporarily at least, exact a terrible toll on a frail human psyche.

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‘Dingolay’ presents
**RAVE THE
 YELLOW
 EDITION**



Costume designer Rachel Hall (center) with costume-clad beauties after the launch of the band in Brooklyn. Photo by Tangerine Clarke

By Tangerine Clarke

Dingolay’s mas band one-color concept has put them in good standing. With a third place win at the 2014 Labor Day Carnival on Eastern Parkway, the band is now positioning itself to take home first prize when it invades the parade on Monday, Sept. 7.

Dynamic costume designers Eddie Trotman and Rachel Hall say their ‘Yellow’ themed motif is causing quite a stir. Fresh after an early Brooklyn launch in June, the Trinidadian duo said they have seen a rush of revelers to their camp to register.

The band will once again compete in the medium band category as Rave – The All Yellow Edition. Trotman is confident that the seven-section

band’s grand performance will capture the judge’s attention.

“Ms. Dingolay,” Rachel Hall will lead the band to its anticipated top win.

The skillfully created costumes are geared for high-energy performance. Revelers can choose from a Tankini, a two-piece, high waisted or a cover-up ensemble that are cut to suit any body type. The costumes are embellished with glitter, jewels, beads, sequins, streamers, and matched with magnificent headpieces designed with feathers.

“The band is the talk of the town, and we plan to step up our presentation to take home the crown,” said Trotman, whose well-crafted pieces are comfortable and allow easy move-

ment. “The costumes are very nice and inexpensive,” added Trotman.

“Dingolay” prides itself on providing quality costumes for a low price. The back line costume cost \$250.00, while the mid-line and the front line cost \$300.00 and \$400.00 respectively. The individual costume is priced at \$450.00.

Hall, a first-rate fashion designer, will incorporate her seamstress skills to dress revelers of all ages. Last year a large section of her clientele were older and they opted for long flowing skirt cover-ups.

The versatile designer will outfit mostly female revelers, and just over 50 male masqueraders, but is hopeful others will join the band.

Dingolay draws its name from a

carnival Soca song from the twin islands by the same name, meaning ample enjoyment. The mas camp will have live music accompanied by three deejays. Trotman expects to attract revelers to the band’s 1323 Nostrand Ave. (between Lennox and Clarkson) camp every night from 11 pm until visitors are ready to leave. “We are free-spirits and sometimes people come to register at 1 am, so everyone is invited to stop by to view our array of costumes,” said Trotman, who is already planning to take the band to Miami carnival after its expected win on the Parkway.

Trotman and Hall could be reached at (347) 228-8952, (347) 423-7918 or visit www.dingolaymasnyc.com.



Mamadou Dahoue and The Ancestral Messengers performing an African dance. Photo by Lem Peterkin

Thousands attend African Arts Festival

By Lem Peterkin

The International African Arts Festival (IAAF) began in 1971 as the African Street Carnival, a PTA’s block party fundraiser for an independent school in Bedford Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn with local entertainers, about 20 arts and crafts vendors, along with food prepared by the parents. Almost 2,000 people came to the event and it was a success.

The festival has been part of the Brooklyn cultural landscape for 40

years. Each year, a committed team of board members, consultants, part-time seasonal staff and volunteers, work together to transform a city park into an outdoor African cultural oasis that celebrates traditional and contemporary expression of various African cultural art forms.

Today, the IAAF is a community-based, non-profit organization that produces an annual event attracting an estimated 75,000 attendees from all over Brooklyn, New York

City, the United States and from around the world.

In 2001, the IAAF relocated to Commodore Barry Park which is the third transition to a larger venue to accommodate its growing audience. The original line-up of local folk arts entertainers which has included dance companies such as Dinizulu African Dancers and Drummers, Marie Brooks Pan-Caribbean Dancers, emerging singers such as Martha Redbone and many others, continue to be an important part of the festival’s programming. Over the years, the stages of the festival has featured renowned artists such as Blue Magic, The Mighty Sparrow, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, KRS-1, Lauryn Hill, and India Arie.

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TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **See you Again**
Wiz Khalifa Feat. Charlie Puth
- 2 **Bad Blood**
Taylor Swift Feat. Kendrick...
- 3 **Shut up & Dance**
Walk the Moon
- 4 **Want to Want Me**
Jason Derulo
- 5 **Hey Mama**
David Guetta
- 6 **Honey I'm Good**
Andy Grammer
- 7 **Talking Body**
Tove Lo
- 8 **Cheerleader**
OMI
- 9 **Earned It (Fifty Shades..)**
The Weeknd
- 10 **Can't Feel My Face**
The Weeknd

TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Dark Before Dawn**
Breaking Benjamin
- 2 **Unbreakable Smile**
Tori Kelly
- 3 **Pageant Material**
Kacey Musgraves
- 4 **Coming Home**
Leon Bridges
- 5 **Before This World**
James Taylor
- 6 **1989**
Taylor Swift
- 7 **Teen Beach 2**
Soundtrack
- 8 **Night Visions**
Imagine Dragons
- 9 **Montevallo**
Sam Hunt
- 10 **x**
Ed Sheeran



REGGAE SUMFEST

Continued from page 31

able to appreciate.”
“He has a unique and vibrant style that will excite patrons.”

Of Hudson the promoter said: “She is a powerhouse vocalist and has a huge catalogue of hits that Jamaicans and people from all across the world know and love.”

This will be the first time that Hudson will perform in Jamaica and she is reportedly looking forward to performing here on the island.

“We understand that she is anticipating the trip to Jamaica and is already preparing for her performance,” Gourzong added.

“We are extremely happy to have been able to confirm Jennifer Hudson as the headline artist on International Night 2.

Yazz gained popularity for his portrayal of Cookie’s son Hakeem, a recurring character and talent whose role on the “Empire” television series

revolves around his recording career as a rapper.

Despite its moniker, the summer showcase has always featured music from other genre.

The marathon concert stage has been the platform for many international and local acts to showcase their talent. Beginning from the first outing with Billy Stewart, Percy Sledge and others, artists such as Kanye West, Lionel Richie, Usher, Destinys Child, Tito Jackson, Rihanna, Boyz II Men, Snoop Dogg, Chris Brown, Nicki Minaj, Trey Songz, R. Kelly, T-Pain, and Ne-Yo have all performed on the bill.

Sumfest begins on July 12 with a beach party and an all white party at a popular night club on July 14.

The main event at Catherine Hall kicks off with dancehall night on July 16.

The U.S. acts will headline two nights dedicated as International Nights.



Jennifer Hudson performs at the TV Land Awards at the Saban Theatre on Saturday, April 11, 2015, in Beverly Hills, California.

Associated Press / Invision / Chris Pizzello, File

“Patrons have come to expect only the best at Reggae Sumfest.

Hudson will headline the final International Night to

close out the festival.

“What better way to end the festival than with a mega-star like Jennifer Hudson,” Gourzong said.

Comedy

Continued from page 31

climbing, Ginger Candy Comedy happened organically through conversations between a group of friends. “There was no moment where we were like ‘let’s think about putting this together.’ We just kind’ve like, ‘let’s put this together,’ and everything pretty much rolled into this great sequence,” Davis said.

“We said, you know what, we have this unique category that we’re in that is a huge category. There’s a lot of us that experience humorous situations with our individual families and then when we get together we find ‘wow we have a huge commonality’ with this Caribbean upbringing, why not bring it to the stage and let’s do it clean so that every one can be apart of it,” Sinckler added.

Keeping it clean is by far the first and most important detail Sinckler, Davis and their other partners stressed. Their show features great comedy suitable for anyone.

“That was the part that we were very adamant about,” Sinckler said. “That it was going to be comedians with Caribbean or African backgrounds and that it was going to be clean as an alternative to what is already out there. Hearing people curse is no big deal. As a matter of fact, people are tired of it.”



Comedian Robert “Sinck” Sinckler on stage for Ginger Candy’s weekly comedy show.

Photo courtesy of Ginger Candy

Sinckler wears various hats in the company handling duties as the host, primary comedian, talent consultant and gatherer of that talent while Davis handles majority of the back office duties including social media and photos.

The lack of foul language included to the show has not equated to a lack or loss of talent. “That’s the beautiful thing about us being here in New York. I call Brooklyn the largest Caribbean island in the world,” Sinckler said. “For them, it’s refreshing to be able to do it clean because they’re able to write numbers for their family that they never told about coming to shows before because they were a little reluctant not only about what they themselves might say but of what somebody from the show might say.”

Jamaican Jerk Festival

Continued from page 31

ern Union Cultural Stage this year,” says Cultural Stages Coordinator Bridget Edwards. Patrons arriving early will be greeted by the vibrant and colorful Akousa Living Legend Afrikan Drum And Dance Troupe, entertaining at the entrance as they direct attendees to activities on the Cultural Stage, which is scheduled to take place from the gates open at noon to 2:30 pm.

There will be something for everyone, from Miss Lou style poetry by Florida-based fan favorite Dr. Sue, to dramatic book readings by writer and film maker Judith Faloon-Reid. Singer Cheryl Spence will have everyone singing along to their favorite Caribbean Folk Songs and the Riddim Driven Fashion show will feature easy to wear garments with progressive styling reflecting the Jamaican lifestyle and culture.

The cultural excitement will peak when the Konekt_Dat Band performs an eclectic Caribbean-infused set, connecting hearts and people through great music and positive vibes. But the fun won’t be restricted to the stages. The organizers have planned some “pop up performances as entertainers will be roam-

ing the park and randomly making stops to entertain patrons with comedy, drumming, poetry and drama. So wherever you are, you can be sure the fun is coming to you!

“We know folks get comfortable and find a seat until the Main Stage starts, but we would like them to know that we present outstanding performances on the Western Union Cultural Stage, so please come early, bring the kids, bring auntie, grandma and grandpa and expect to have lots of fun,” stated Edwards.

Advanced tickets to the Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival NY are available on line at www.jerkfestivalNY.com or at selected retail outlets in the tri-state area. Raddison Hotel JFK is the official festival hotel offering discounted rates to festival attendees visiting New York.

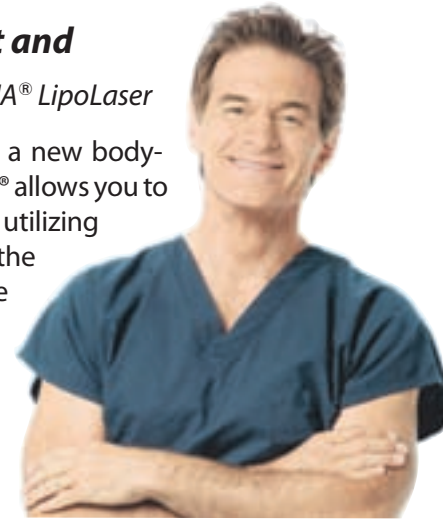
The 5th Annual Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival New York is presented by Jamaican Jerk Festival USA, Inc., in association with VP Records. Sponsors are Grace Foods, Western Union, Continental Bakery, Vitamalt, Gleaner, Power 106, Randy’s Radio and Tower Isle Patties.

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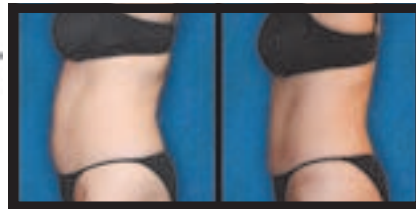
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SPORTS

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Jerian Grant listens to questions while being interviewed after being selected during the NBA basketball draft, Thursday, June 25, 2015, in New York. Associated Press / Kathy Willens

Knicks strive to move up

By Robert Elkin

Jerian Grant was known to be a scorer for Notre Dame during his four-year college career. He also can play at other positions on the court and be more of putting the ball in the hoop. The Knicks liked what they saw in the Grant during his time with Notre Dame.

During the draft, New York Knickerbocker President Phil Jackson went to work and decided to make a trade, not a big one, to strengthen the team in order to set the stage for the 2015-16 season.

He sent Tim Hardaway, Jr. to Atlanta

Continued on Page 40

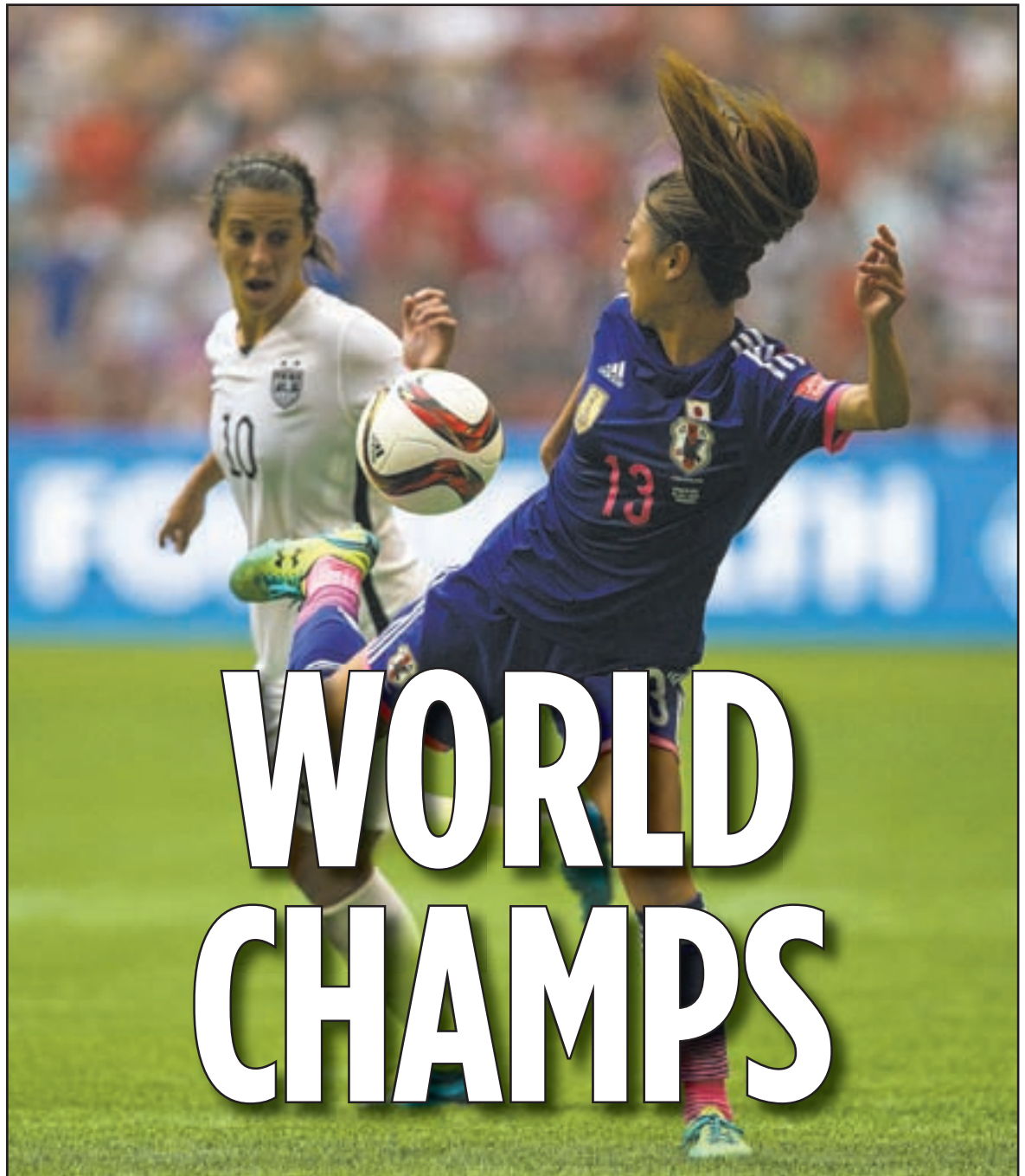
Dwayne Bravo creates history

By Azad Ali

West Indies all-rounder Dwayne Bravo created history when he became both the first Trinidad and Tobago national and first ever cricketer to be nominated in any category in the prestigious ESPY Awards in the USA.

In the "Best Play" category that also features 2015 NBA MVP Stephen Curry and Ballon D'Or winner Lionel Messi. Bravo was nominated for his stunning one hand catch for the Chennai Super Kings against the Rajasthan Royals during the final of the recently com-

Continued on Page 40



Japan's Rumi Utsugi, right, and United States' Carli Lloyd vie for the ball during the second half of the FIFA Women's World Cup soccer championship in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on Sunday, July 5, 2015. The United States won 5-2. Darryl Dyck / The Canadian Press via Associated Press

US women win soccer cup for third time

By Patrick Horne

The USA national team became the first to win the Women's World Cup three times when it defeated defending champion and old nemesis Japan, 5-2, last Sunday in Vancouver, British Columbia. There was much significance to the win, a host of

them, but probably the most significant thing that came out of the historic victory was echoed by the USA coach Jill Ellis: "Pure elation and I'm just so proud of them, and so happy for every American girl who dreams about this."

As Ellis said, "... happy for every

American girl who dreams about this." Carly Lloyd, recipient of the Golden Ball Award as the best player in the tournament, and her teammates gave a lot of power to the next generation of American female players, who now have the strongest

Continued on Page 40

Jerian Grant fortifies Knicks

Continued from page 39

for Jerian Grant, who comes from a family of basketball players.

There is another player in the National Basketball Association and is not playing too far from Madison Square Garden. He is Jerami Grant who completed his rookie season with the Philadelphia 76ers in 2014-2015. Jerami became the 39th overall selection last year, and played in the NBA during the fall.

Their father played in the league from the late 1980s to late 1990s. Their uncle played in the league from the late 1980s to 2004.

Basketball is sure in the blood of the Grants.

With his size, speed, backcourt work, and playmaking the ability as well as running the point, Jerian Grant gives the Knicks added strength in the back court.

He excels at giving penetration into the lane and finishing the scoring at the wing position. In addition, he has leaping ability and strength to score or even get fouled.

"I'm extremely excited to go to the (Knicks)," he said. "It's a great opportunity to go out and for us to get some wins."

Notre Dame Coach Mike Brey is very impressed with the way Grant played while in college. He has a high basketball technique.

The triangle offense that the Knicks employ has high basketball IQ players.

Grant thinks that he is one of those types of players. He picks up on the offense very quickly and he can help his teammates around him.

"We work extremely hard," he said. "We're a family that likes to come in and contribute to a team right away. And my Dad and Uncle did it. And my brother did it last year as a rookie. I'm looking forward to contributing to this (Knicks) team."

This rookie is on the same Knick squad with Carmelo Anthony, an all-star legend in his own play. The latter is expected to lead the offense, once again. With the quality of players now on the team makes the game and style of play extremely easy.

Anthony's play making skills and overall offensive play should make it easier for the Knicks to win much more games than they did last year and enter the playoffs rather easily in a tough division.

Overall, Grant is excited to be playing in Madison Square Garden.

"I've played there a few times (while in college)," he said. "I've had some wins and some great moments. But it'll be nothing like putting on a Knick jersey and staying in there."



United States' defender Christie Rampone (3) and rest of the team celebrate 5-2 victory over Japan at the conclusion of Women's World Cup final, Sunday July 05, 2015 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Mo Khurshed / TFV Media via Associated Press

New Yorkers to celebrate champs

Continued from page 39

motivation that breathes champions – the dream of winning a World Cup and being the best team in the world... And knowing that Americans girls can do it!

The USA showed good technique, tactical acumen and sheer power and bravado on the world stage; the women captured the hearts and minds of many around the world with a display of confidence, professionalism and superiority. They were the toasts of soccer purists because they passed soccer's old litmus tests echoed in old adages: a great team never loses to the same foe twice; and great teams put away important contests within the first 15 minutes of the match.

Japan had rallied twice when it beat the USA for the title four years ago in Frankfurt, Germany, but the Americans remembered and said never again; with 16 minutes of the kick-off on

Sunday, the Americans were ahead, 4-0. Lloyd, the 'beast' as Ellis calls her, had scored a hat trick, the first in a women's World Cup final, and added to the highest score in a women's final by helping to prop up the score. Lloyd now is in world class company as only she and English legend and West Ham United star, Sir Geoff Hurst, share this accomplishment. Hurst scored a hat trick versus Germany in the 1966 final at Wembley Stadium in London when the host defeated Germany, 4-2, to win England's only world title.

There were other very significant moments to the World Cup win; all-time international scoring leader Abby Wambach will retire with a world title, and so will her veteran teammates Christie Rampone, Shannon Boxx, Heather O'Reilly and Lori Chalupny, all stalwarts who contributed on this historic journey. We saw the last and have also said goodbye to another great female

player, former Japan captain Homare Sawa, who led her country in victory over the U.S. four years ago and won the Golden Ball Award. Sawa, showed her class and recognized a moment never to be duplicated again, when she greeted Wambach with a high-five touch of the hand as the American entered the World Cup game for one last time.

This 2015 USA World cup team may just have secured the future of USA women's soccer for quite some time.

Champions Parade

New York City is staging a big bash for the U.S. World Cup champions with a big ticker-tape parade on Friday, July 10, 11 am, down the famous Canyon of Heroes path in downtown Manhattan, on Broadway between City Hall and Battery Park. Fans are invited to celebrate the U.S. champions and wear red, white and blue.

Bravo nominated for award

Continued from page 39

pleted Indian Premier League.

This is the first time that any cricketer from any country in the world has been nominated for the American Award, often referred to as the "Oscars of Sports."

"Beat Play" features stiff competition, with 16 nominees split into eight brackets or match ups.

Bravo needs to get more votes than a "Hail Mary" play from the Bahamas Bowl before he moves into the next

round.

On his nomination Bravo said: "I admit I am still shocked on many levels. Firstly I am shocked and happy that cricket is being recognized by the American market on their biggest and most prestigious night in sport."

The voting period is now open and fans are encouraged to visit the ESPYs website to cast their vote for Bravo. The ESPYs take place on July 15 in Los Angeles.



West Indies' Dwayne Bravo.

Associated Press / Themba Hadebe, File

Zouks defeat Tridents in Caribbean League



West Indian batsman Andre Fletcher hits the ball for four from Australian bowler Mitchell Johnson during their Champions Trophy cricket match against the West Indies.

Associated Press, File

The St. Lucia Zouks surprised the Barbados Tridents in a high scoring match in the Hero Caribbean Premier League. Although the Tridents lead the points table, the Zouks batsmen excelled in fine style reaching 202 runs for 5 wickets in their 20 overs. Andre Fletcher scored 77 runs from 50 balls and Kevin Pietersen 73 from 39 balls. Fletcher and Pietersen put together a partnership of 137 runs. The Warner Park spectators in St. Kitts were thrilled.

BARBADOS TRIDENTS SCORE 172 RUNS FOR 7 WICKETS

Captain of the St. Lucia Zouks Darren Sammy picked up 3 wickets for 35 runs. Captain of the Barbados Tridents, Kieron Pollard scored 31, Shoaib Malik 31 and Jason Holder 31.

T&T RED STEEL DEFEATS THE AMAZON WARRIORS

Trinidad and Tobago Red Steel defeated the Guyana Amazon Warriors by 3 wickets. Red Steel scored 124 runs for 7 wickets in 20 overs, Kamran



Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

Akmal top scored with 30 and Jacques Kallis 20. Degenerate Bishoo picked up 4 wickets for 24 runs.

Guyana Amazon Warriors scored 118 with Lendl Simmons top scoring with 50 from 48 balls. Captain of the Trinidad and Tobago Red Steel Dwayne Bravo picked up 4 wickets for 18 runs.

MOST RUNS IN CPL 2015

Andre Fletcher.....284 runs
Shoaib Malik.....209 runs
Chris Gayle.....179 runs
Johnson Charles.....173 runs
Kieron Pollard171 runs
Kevin Pietersen165 runs

'HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES IN CPL 2015

Chris Gayle90 Not Out
Kieron Pollard82
Andre Fletcher.....77
Johnson Charles.....69 Not

Out
Martin Guptill53
Shoaib Malik.....51

HERO CARIBBEAN PREMIER LEAGUE 2015 POINTS TABLE

Barbados Tridents 8
St. Lucia Zouks 7
St. Kitts/ Nevis
Patriots 4
Jamaica Tallawahs 4
Trinidad/Tobago Red Steel...3
Guyana Amazon Warriors....2

Note: All statistics are up to Sunday, July 5, 2015.

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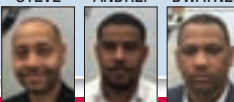


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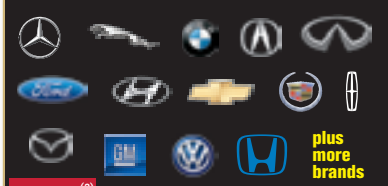
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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, don't be fooled by appearances. Sometimes there is more than meets the eye, and finding the truth beneath the surface can prove enlightening.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, use this week to experiment in the kitchen. You will benefit from exploring new cuisines you have long been wanting to try but have yet to prepare.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, now is a perfect time to explore social events that can expand your social circle. You have plenty of friends, but you can always benefit from meeting new people.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, your creativity is at an all-time high. Take advantage of your inspiration and get involved in a special project. Embrace this opportunity to put your creative energy to use.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, now is the time to explore a new hobby. Invite others to join you to make your exploration that much more rewarding. Afford this interest ample time to grow.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, seek situations that are peaceful and surround yourself with like-minded, mellow people. Enjoy the respite that relaxing atmospheres provide.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
You need a confidence booster, Libra. Take action and seek ways to feel better about a situation that has been bothering you. This proactive approach may be all you need.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
You may seem like you aren't able to get ahead in your career, Scorpio. But it could be that you're looking to advance too quickly. Be patient and allow your skills to grow.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
Take credit for your ideas, Sagittarius. Remember to be humble, but don't feel shy about expressing your pride in a job well done.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Get the facts before drawing any conclusions this week, Capricorn. Allow some time to assess a situation that has proven difficult to handle. Things may be more clear tomorrow.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
A longtime friend may evolve into something more soon, Aquarius. A spark has always been there, and you might be ready to explore a new relationship.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, don't fret when plans are canceled at the last minute. Try to reschedule as soon as possible and make the most of your newfound free time.

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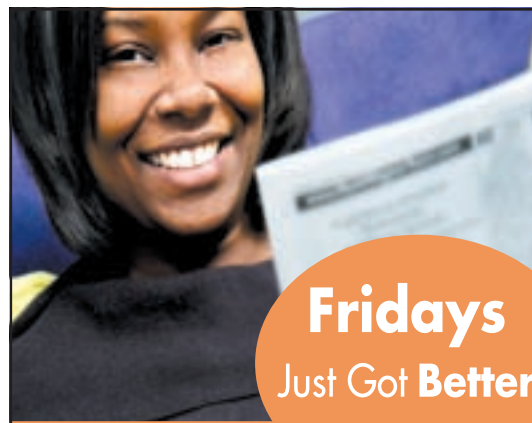
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